## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims:

- 1. (withdrawn) A method for preparing an extract of caper flower buds comprising:
  - (a) providing caper flower buds, and
  - (b) performing a supercritical fluid extraction of said buds.
- 2. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the caper flower buds are of the species Capparis spinosa.
- 3. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supercritical fluid comprises CO<sub>2</sub> and at least one cosolvent.
- 4. *(withdrawn)* The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the cosolvent comprises 2-octyldodecyl myristate (ODM).
- 5. *(withdrawn)* The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising subsequent to step (a): drying the buds; grinding the dried buds; and rehydrating the buds.
- 6. *(withdrawn)* The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the extraction step is performed at a temperature between 30 and 90°C, at a pressure between 73 and 350 bars, and for a period of 0.5 to 10 hours.
- 7. *(withdrawn)* The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising subsequent to step (b): decanting the extract; and filtering the extract.
- 8. *(withdrawn)* A method for producing a cosmetic composition, comprising: preparing the extract of claim 1, and admixing the extract in a cosmetically acceptable carrier.
- 9. (*withdrawn*) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the extract accounts for between 0.1 and 10% by weight of the composition.

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- 10. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising: admixing at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of depigmenting agents, emollients, moisturisers, antiseborrheic agents, antiacne agents, keratolytic and desquamative agents, antiwrinkle agents and tensors, draining agents, anti-irritation agents, soothing agents, slimming products, vitamins and their combinations, matting agents, anti-ageing ingredients, anti-wrinkle agents, and essential oils.
- 11. *(withdrawn)* The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising: admixing at least one ultraviolet light ray filter selected from the group consisting of benzophenone-3, butyl methoxydibenzoyl methane, octorylene, octyl methoxycinnamate, 4-methylbenzylidene camphor, octyl salicylate, tacephthalydene dicamphor sulphanic acid and drometrizole trisiloxane.
- 12. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the drying step is performed at a temperature of 60°C.
- 13. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the extraction step is performed at a temperature of 50°C, a pressure of 290 bars, and a period of 5 hours.
- 14. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the extract accounts for between 0.3 and 3% by weight of the composition.
- 15. *(previously presented))* A composition comprising: one or more of cappaprenols 12, 13 and 14; and a fatty acid.
- 16. *(previously presented)* A composition comprising from 14.8 to 42 mg of at least one of cappaprenols 12, 13 and 14 in 100 g of a fat.
- 17. *(previously presented)* A composition according to claim 15 wherein said fatty acid comprises at least one of palmitic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid and linolenic acid.

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18. *(previously presented)* A composition according to claim 15, wherein said composition is glucosinate-free.

- 19. *(previously presented)* A composition according to claim 15 prepared by the process of extracting flower buds of the species *Capparis spinosa* with a mixture of supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> and octyldodecyl myristate.
- 20. (previously presented) A cosmetic composition for topical application comprising:
  - a composition according to claim 15 and
  - a cosmetically acceptable carrier.